

Message Text

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ORIGIN CU-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 USIA-15 /032 R

DRAFTED BY CU/EE:REMCCARTHY:AMM

APPROVED BY CU/EE:YRICHMOND

EUR/SOV:FDEMARZO

USIA/IEE:MHOFFMANN (INFO)

USIA/ICS/E:WDAVIS (INFO)

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P R 092246Z JUL 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

UNCLAS STATE 161435

E.O. 11652: N/A

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TAGS: OEXC, TSPA, UR, US (WYETH, JAMES)

SUBJECT: STAG FOR SPACE ART EXHIBIT

REF: A. MOSCOW 8624; B. STATE 160751

1. ARTIST JAMES WYETH, WHO HAS ACCEPTED UNION OF WRITERS INVITATION SPEND 10 DAYS IN USSR IN CONNECTION WITH SPACE ART EXHIBIT, WHICH INCLUDES 3 OF HIS PAINTINGS, PLANS TO ARRIVE USSR SOME TIME BETWEEN JULY 18 AND 22. WILL ADVISE. WYETH WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY HIS WIFE, PHYLLIS. DEPT STILL ATTEMPTING CONTACT RAUSCHENBERG.

2. PLS CONFIRM THAT UNION OF WRITERS WILL COVER COST OF INTERNAL TRAVEL, HOTEL, FOOD, AND INTERPRETER FOR WYETH. WYETH PREPARED TO FUND WIFE'S EXPENSES. DEPT PREPARED RECEIVE AND PROVIDE INTERNAL TRAVEL AND SUBSISTANCE FOR TWO SOVIET ARTISTS IN RETURN AS SUGGESTED REFTEL A.

3. DURING 10 DAY STAY, WYETHS WISH TO MAKE 3 DAY TRIP TO LENINGRAD TO SEE HERMITAGE COLLECTION. DEPT ASSUMES UNION UNCLASSIFIED

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OF ARTISTS WILL MAKE NECESSARY ARRANGEMENTS; AND SUGGESTS

INCLUDING MEETINGS WITH LENINGRAD ARTISTS.

4. SEVERAL FACTORS SUGGEST EMBASSY BE PREPARED TO RENDER SPECIAL ASSISTANCE TO WYETHS. WYETH HAS TRAVELED OUTSIDE USA ONLY ONCE (A 3 DAY TRIP TO LONDON) AND IS APPARENTLY INEXPERIENCED IN GIVING LECTURE/SLIDE PRESENTATIONS ON HIS WORK. MOST IMPORTANT, MRS. WYETH, ALTHOUGH AMBULATORY, MUST USE CRUTCHES AND WILL REQUIRE WHEEL CHAIR FOR ANY EXTENDED ACTIVITIES, SUCH AS VISITING MUSEUMS. REQUEST MAKE ARRANGEMENTS FOR WHEEL CHAIR IF POSSIBLE. ADVISE.

5. REQUEST EMBASSY AND UNION OF ARTISTS INFORM MFA OF WYETH TRIP AND ENLIST SUPPORT OF VISA REQUEST. DEPT WILL CABLE PASSPORT INFO ASAP.

6. WYETH REQUESTS ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON HIS PROGRAM AND ANY PREPARATIONS HE SHOULD MAKE. INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 JUL 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE161435
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: REMCCARTHY:AMM
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750237-0523
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750771/aaaacvlx.tel
Line Count: 78
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN CU
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 MOSCOW 8624, 75 STATE 160751
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 JAN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17 JAN 2003 by ThomasVJ>; APPROVED <22 MAR 2004 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: STAG FOR SPACE ART EXHIBIT
TAGS: OEXC, UR, US, (WYETH, JAMES)
To: MOSCOW
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006